



**LANGUE VIVANTE II**

**Epreuve du 1<sup>er</sup> groupe**

**ANGLAIS**

**The curse of violent crime.**

Day by day, America's all too familiar crime clock clicks faster and faster. Every 24 minutes a murder is committed somewhere in the U.S. Every 10 seconds a house is burgled; every 7 minutes a woman is raped. Every 13 seconds a handgun is sold. But there is something new about the way that Americans are killing, robbing, raping and assaulting one another. The curse of violent crime exists not just in the ghettos of depressed cities, but everywhere in urban areas, in suburbs and peaceful countrysides.

More significant, the crimes are becoming more brutal, more irrational and therefore all the more frightening. The fear of crime is slowly paralyzing American society. Rare is the American who does not personally know at least one victim of violence. In reaction to the spreading fear Americans are arming themselves with guns as if they still lived in frontier days. They are buying guard dogs and are living behind bars and locks. Classes in karate are flourishing. Neighbourhood watch groups and militias are springing up in most large cities, often with the enthusiastic support of police.

Who are the increasingly brutal marauders responsible for assaults and murders? They are often the unattended sons of working couples who, say the police, are glad to keep up with the rising cost of marijuana. The police chief of Los Angeles takes a broader view: "We've lost a whole generation." He says. "Totally lost. No self-discipline. Total indulgence. Drugs. Lack of respect for the law. Lack of respect for values. A whole generation thumbed its nose at everything that was held sacred in this country. America has to take a look at its heart and its soul." Statistics show that young people commit most of the violent crime in America.

New York police chief declares: "Street crime is the most serious thing we face today. It has an enormous impact on the quality of people's lives. It determines where we walk, what time we walk, even whether we play bingo at night and whether we go to the theatre. Crime imprisons citizens in their homes as they fear to venture outside.

**Sources: By Ed Magnuson, March 1981. www.amazon.com**

**I. READING COMPREHENSION (8 marks)**

A. **Vocabulary in context:** Associate the words in columns A and B meaningfully (1, 5 marks)

A	B
1-Killing	a-Love
2-Robbing	b-Sex
3-Raping	c-Property
	d-Death

Answers: 1 \_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_

B. **Say whether the statements are true or false and justify your answer with a right quotation from the text. (1 x 3 = 3 marks)**

- The crimes in the streets are conditioning people's lives.  
T/F : .....
- The criminals are mainly the children of jobless people.  
T/F : .....
- Crimes are only committed in poverty-stricken places.  
T/F : .....

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**C. From the indicated paragraphs. (1.5 marks)**

New statistics have shown that the curse of street crime is no longer limited to the 5. ....(parag 1). In fact, it is gradually 6.....(parag 2) people because of the terror it causes. A lot of people are afraid of going to some places at certain moments. It is high time for the police authorities to arrest the real people who are 7.....(parag 3) for such a situation.

**D. Complete the table with information from the text (2 marks)**

Two (2) types of crime mentioned in the text	Perpetrators	Two (2) solutions for survival from the text
- Killing	9.....	10.....
- 8.....		11.....

**II. COMMUNICATIVE GRAMMAR (6 marks)**

**E. Complete the following dialogue coherently and meaningfully (0.5 x 5 = 2.5 marks)**

A journalist is interviewing Mr. Brown, a Black Senator, who is a member of the US committee in charge of looking for solutions to eradicate street crime.

**Journalist** : This violence seems to be unstoppable, 13. .... ?

**Mr. Brown** : You're right but we can do something.

**Journalist** : So, what do you 14. .... ?

**Mr. Brown** : For me, the way to fight it is to reinforce security.

**Journalist** : Does that mean more .....15 in the hands of the public?

**Mr. Brown** : Surely not! We have started a vast public awareness raising campaign.

**Journalist** : 16.....segment of the population is targeted?

**Mr Brown** Our top concern is youngsters who are involved in most violent crimes.

**Journalist** : Do you think your campaign will have an impact on them?

**Mr Brown** : Yes I ..... 17! We have already recorded positive reactions from school principals!

**F. Choose the correct word in brackets to complete the following paragraph (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)**

The Mayor of New York is reacting after a series of recent crimes in his city. "The curse of violent crime can't be stopped 18. (unless – although – because) we all join our forces. We shouldn't exclude 19. (some – any – no) details to fight this plague; many generations managed to live in harmony 20. (since – for – during) years. Why can't it be possible with the new generation? So, we can't let them 21. (to behave – behave – behaving) the way they like!

**G. Match the following notions with the statements. (0.5 x 3 = 1,5 marks)**

**Notions:** Apology – Recommendation – Consequence- Regret

Statements	Notions
22. "We've lost a whole generation"	.....
23. "America has to take a look at its heart and soul"	.....
24: "Americans are arming themselves with guns"	

**III. WRITING (6 marks)**

**Choose ONE topic and write about 150-200 lines.**

**TOPIC 1** : Violence is gaining ground in almost all big cities. What are the causes of this increase? Which solutions can be brought to fight it?

**TOPIC 2** : You have noticed that violent crime is on the increase in your district. As a concerned citizen, write a letter to the Minister of the Interior for more protection.